

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 34-39 without prejudice. Please amend Claims 25-27, 29, 30, 32, 42-44, 46, 47, 49, 51-56 and 58, which are presented below in amended form. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - iii).

25. (Twice Amended) An isolated neurotrophic peptide, comprising the amino acid sequence of peptide C14 (SEQ ID NO:14) or a neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:14, wherein said neurotrophic variant has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:14, with the proviso that said isolated neurotrophic peptide is not SEQ ID NO:34. *14mer* *1162aa* *-74* *calculation* *33-calculation*

B<sup>1</sup> 26. (Twice Amended) The isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25, further comprising an amino-terminal protecting group, a carboxyl-terminal protecting group, or an amino-terminal protecting group and a carboxyl-terminal protecting group.

27. (Amended) A composition, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

B<sup>2</sup> 29. (Twice Amended) The composition of Claim 28, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).

30. (Amended) A fusion protein, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25 and a fusion partner.

B<sup>3</sup> 32. (Amended) The fusion protein of Claim 31, wherein said neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).

42. (Amended) The isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25, wherein said peptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13.
- B<sup>5</sup> 43. (Amended) The isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 42, further comprising an amino-terminal protecting group, a carboxyl-terminal protecting group, or an amino-terminal protecting group and a carboxyl-terminal protecting group.
44. (Amended) A composition, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 42 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.
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- B<sup>6</sup> 46. (Amended) The composition of Claim 45, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
47. (Amended) A fusion protein, comprising the isolated neurotrophic peptide of Claim 42 and a fusion partner.
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- B<sup>7</sup> 49. (Amended) The fusion protein of Claim 48, wherein said mammalian neurotrophic factor is ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) or leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF).
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51. (Amended) An isolated neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34, wherein said variant comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14, comprises fewer amino acid residues than SEQ ID NO:34 and has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with a corresponding portion of SEQ ID NO:34.  
1162<sup>mer</sup>  
14<sup>mer</sup>  
to which 3
- B<sup>8</sup> 52. (Amended) The isolated neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant comprises SEQ ID NO:13.
53. (Amended) The isolated neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant comprises amino acids 79-666 of SEQ ID NO:34.